

Message Text

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ORIGIN SNM-02

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DRAFTED BY: S/NM:DHERNST

APPROVED BY: S/NM:DHERNST

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 274312

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION KABUL INFO SECSTATE FROM GENEVA

DTD 07 NOV 1976 QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 8832

STADIS/LIMDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR VANCE (KABUL) AND DAVID ENRST (S/NM)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, TU, EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN SEIZURE OF OPIUM FROM TURKISH VESSEL

REF: GENEVA 8709

1. WE QUERIED BRAENDEN ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF HIS OR OTHER
UN OFFICIAL'S TAKING STEPS TO BRING TO ATTENTION OF
AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN THAT IN LIGHT UN LABORATORY'S ANALYSIS
OF SEIZED OPIUM SAMPLES, THIS MATERIAL COULD HAVE ORIGINATED
IN ONE OR THE OTHER OF THESE COUNTRIES.

2. BRAENDEN STRESSES, AS INDICATED REFTTEL, THAT LABORATORY'S
ANALYSES LEAD HIM TO FIRM BELIEF THAT TURKEY MUST BE EXCLUDED

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AS SOURCE OF SEIZED MATERIAL. HOWEVER, THESE ANALYSES,

INCLUDING COMPARISON WITH AUTHENTICATED SAMPLES IN LABORATORY'S COLLECTION, DO NOT (REPEAT NOT) PERMIT HIM TO STATE DEFINITELY THE POINT OF ORIGIN. FROM HIS GENERAL KNOWLEDGE AND FAMILIARITY WITH CHARACTERISTICS OF OPIUM PRODUCED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES AND RESEMBLANCES TO CERTAIN AUTHENTICATED SAMPLES, HE CONSIDERS IT LIKELY THAT AFGHANISTAN OR PAKISTAN IS SOURCE OF OPIUM INVOLVED IN EGYPTIAN SEIZURE. HOWEVER, HIS OPINION TO THIS EFFECT WAS GIVEN TO US ORALLY AND PERSONALLY. HE CONSIDERS THAT ACTUAL SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE IS NOT SUCH AS TO PERMIT HIM SAY MORE THAN HE DID IN HIS WRITTEN STATEMENT (REFTEL) THAT SEIZURE SAMPLES, IN HIS VIEW, ORIGINATED IN THE "SOUTH ASIAN SUB-CONTINENT AND NEIGHBORING AREAS".

3. ACCORDINGLY, BRAENDEN IS DISINCLINED ADVISE PAKISTAN OR AFGHANISTAN OF LABORATORY'S ANALYSIS AND HIS PERSONAL CONCLUSION. CATTO UNQTE KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 NOV 1976
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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